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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PDC FINES ELECTED OFFICIALS FOR FILING REPORTS LATE

Olympia – Chair of the Public Disclosure Commission, Mike Connelly, issued civil penalties after finding nine elected officials in violation of state Public Disclosure laws during brief enforcement hearings held today in Olympia.

Chairman Connelly found that nine central Washington area officials had not timely filed an annual Personal Financial Affairs Statement (Form F-1). State law requires elected officials and certain state appointed officials to file an F-1 with the Public Disclosure Commission by April 15th reporting financial activity for the preceding year.

Connelly stressed the importance of filing reports that disclose personal financial interests and holdings.

"These reports afford the public tangible proof that officials are acting in the public interest and not for their private gain," Connelly said.

A letter reminding each official of his or her obligation to file was sent during the first week of May 2005. On June 4, a second letter with an opportunity to pay a civil penalty and forego an enforcement hearing was sent.

Government officials from central Washington who were assessed a penalty at the brief enforcement hearing are:

Elvia Lopez, City Council Member for the City of Wapato, was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$100.

Earl Murdock, Director of Eastmont School Dist. #206, was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$100.

Louise Sisk, Director of Union Gap School Dist. #2, was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$100.

Larry Dekker, Commissioner for Naches Park & Rec. Dist., was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$100.

Robert Eaton, City Council Member for the City of Leavenworth, was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

Stephen May, City Council Member for the City of Wenatchee, was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

Peter McNew, City Council Member for the City of Selah, was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$150.

Jeffrey Grass, Commissioner for Grant Co. Fire Protection Dist. #7City Council Member for the City of Selah, was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$300.

Frank Mianecki, Commissioner for Port of Grant Co. Dist. #2, was found in violation and assessed a civil penalty of \$300.

Officials found in violation at the hearing will have an opportunity to ask the full, fivemember Commission to review the action taken by the Chair.